

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

**Purpose:** The Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) mission is to protect, sustain and improve a clean and healthful environment to benefit present and future generations. DEQ will uphold, in a consistent manner, the Montana Constitution - Article IX and all other statutes, regulations and legal policies that are applicable to DEQ. Within the bounds of these laws and regulations, DEQ will strive to make decisions that balance public and private costs and benefits for the greatest public benefit.

**Authorities:** MCA – **Title 37:** Chapter 42, Part 101 – 322; Chapter 41, Part 101 – 1212; **Title 50,** Chapter 70, Part – 118; **Title 75:** Chapter 2, Parts 101 – 429 & 501 – 514; Chapter 3, Part 601 – 607; Chapter 5, Part 101 – 641 & 1101 – 1122; Chapter 6, Part 101 – 121 & 201 – 225; Chapter 10, Part 201 – 233, 401 – 451, 501 – 542, 601 – 628, 701 – 738, 801 – 807, 901 – 954 & 1001 – 1006; Chapter 11, Part 201 – 232, 301 – 321 & 501 – 526; Chapter 20, Part 101 – 1205; **Title 76,** Chapter 4, Part 101 – 135; **Title 80,** Chapter 15, Part 101 – 414; **Title 82,** Chapter 4, Part 101 – 142, 201 – 254, 301 – 372 & 401 – 446; **Title 90,** Chapter 4, Part 101 – 112 & 601 – 1001.

### Roles & Responsibilities:

#### Director's Office

- Access the federal Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund with regard to oil spill response mitigation in navigable Montana waters. *[Mitigation Assistance]*
- PIO's can assist in drafting public service announcements or other forms of outreach. *[Technical Assistance]*
- Assists in implementing the Montana Drought Plan as an active member of the Governor's DAC. *[Drought]*
- Active member of the State Hazard Mitigation Team for establishing project priorities statewide, developing the mitigation strategy and locating any possible departmental funds for project completion. *[Mitigation Assistance]*

#### Enforcement Division

- Coordinates DEQ response to spills, releases to water, emergency events and ensures proper cleanup. *[Hazmat]*
- Maintains a 24-hour Duty Officer Program that communicates directly with DES to receive spill reports and provide technical assistance in emergency situations. *[Hazmat]*

#### Permitting & Compliance Division

- Public Water Supply program provides assistance in situations pertaining to boil orders

for public water supplies. *[Public Health/Safety – Health, Medical & Mortuary]*

- Solid Waste Program provides listings of existing licensed landfills to dispose of non-hazardous debris generated during an incident. *[Public Health/Safety – Health, Medical & Mortuary]*
- Solid Waste Program assists in locating or preplanning for emergency debris dumps to include animal disposal. *[Public Health/Safety – Health, Medical & Mortuary & Animal Disease]*
- Hazardous Waste Program may provide technical assistance regarding management of hazardous wastes (including explosive materials). *[Hazmat]*

#### **Planning, Prevention & Assistance Division**

- Monitors meteorological and ambient air quality conditions and can assist with potential health advisories associated with smoke and dust. *[Public Health/Safety – Health, Medical & Mortuary]*
- Active member of the Pacific Northwest Emergency Response Team responsible for relaying alert information that would affect the regional electricity transmission system. *[Energy Crisis]*